HES 2007-08 Outpatient Data Quality Note

The data quality note will be updated in the event of issues arising post-publication. A summary of changes made will appear in the table below.

Version Control	
Date	**Summary of Update**
09/03/2010	V3 - Amendment: reformat of provider coverage issues
21/07/2009	V2 - Known Provider Issues expanded - Pseudonymised HES ID activated
20/02/2009	V1 - Note for publication

Introduction

The following issues have been identified are present in the annual data:

Developing dataset

The outpatient dataset is a developing dataset which has a number of continuing issues regarding quality and coverage of certain key fields.

The latest information on these issues can be found on the HESonline website [http://www.hesonline.nhs.uk/Ease/servlet/ContentServer?siteID=1937&categoryID=898].

Operation codes

Due to a technical error operation codes 2 and upwards have not been cleaned.

Impact: invalid codes may be present in operation code 2 and upwards – they will not have been cleaned away to '&'. This is a display issue only since all valid codes are still present and decoded. Invalid codes will have a description and values that are identical.

Extract date not consistent across all providers

The following organisations have had gaps in their data resolved by using data contained within earlier HES extracts.

Organisations with data gaps using data from earlier HES extracts			
Organisation Name	**Org Code**	**Months Affected**	**Extract Date Used**
Brighton And Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust	RXH	Oct - Dec	25/04/2008
Cambridgeshire PCT	5PP	All	25/04/2008
Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	RFS	Apr, May	25/04/2008
West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust	RWG	Apr - Jul	25/04/2008

Impact: The coding of these episodes may not be as complete compared to episodes submitted for annual refresh.

Caution is advised when using the above records.

Genito-urinary medicine (GUM) clinic data

The number of trusts supplying Genito-urinary medicine (GUM) clinic data is still very low for HES. Out of approximately 400 trusts submitting attendance data, only 14 submitted GUM data in 2005-06. This has gradually improved over the years with 18 trusts submitting GUM data in 2006-07 and 19 trusts in 2007-08. Thus the data is presented in the spirit of transparency and in order to encourage improvements, but caution must be urged in its use. Failure to release this data could slow down the quality improvement process. This would reduce the usefulness of subsequently collected data in monitoring the 18 weeks wait target.

Known provider issues

The following organisations have shortfalls; their data should be interpreted with caution.

Organisations with shortfalls / missing data			
Organisation name	**Org. code**	**Months affected**	**Approx. no. of records missing**
Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust	RVL	Aug - Dec	230,000
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust	RT1	Aug - Sep	2,000
City and Hackney Teaching PCT	5C3	Jul - Mar	18,000
Classic Hospitals	NTH	Apr	200
Clatterbridge Centre for Oncology NHS Foundation Trust	REN	May, Jun	38,000
General Healthcare	NT7	Nov	1,500
Hertfordshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust	RWR	Jan - Mar	9,000
Hull Teaching PCT	5NX	Dec - Mar	160
Kirklees PCT	5N2	Sep - Mar	7,000
Leicester City PCT	5PC	Feb - Mar	2,800
Leicestershire County and Rutland PCT	5PA	Feb - Mar	24,000
North East Lincolnshire Care Trust Plus	TAN	Oct - Mar	6,000
Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust	RPG	Sep	2,000
Sheffield Care Trust	TAH	Jun - Mar	15,000
South Downs Health NHS Trust	RDR	Jul - Mar	30,000
South West London and St George's Mental NHS Trust	RQY	Jul - Mar	54,000
Spire Hospitals	NT3	Apr - Sep	9,000
Warwickshire PCT	5PM	Mar	90
Wrightington Wigan and Leigh NHS Trust	RRF	Apr - Jun, Oct - Mar	450,000